28th January 1929]

Calculation of interest on loans granted by Co-operative Societies.

*1041 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Bhupathi, Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, IV Circle, Vellore, held a conference or class of the supervisors and inspectors in the Salem district, early in October 1928 at Salem;

(b) whether it is a fact that he gave instructions to auditors (inspectors) in the Salem district to calculate interest on all loans outstanding, at a uniformly lower rate, viz., 9⅜ per cent per annum even on loans granted to members on the original stipulated higher rate of 10 per cent or more, even during the currency of the contract stipulating to pay at the higher rates of 10 per cent or more; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps to prevent the giving of such instructions by their officers?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The question does not arise.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"May I know how the hon. Minister obtained the information? Was it from the person complained against?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"It is a report from the Registrar."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Did the hon. Minister take any pains to ascertain the facts?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"We credit our departmental heads with honesty unless the contrary is proved."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"If some half a dozen instances of the officer having acted as reported to me are brought to his notice will he enquire?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Certainly I will enquire."

Utilization of the Cinema for co-operative propaganda.

*1042 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the measures taken by the Government for utilizing the cinema for co-operative propaganda;

(b) whether any prize has been offered for the best drama on any co-operative subject; and

(c) if so, of what sum and with what result?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The question of utilizing the cinema as a medium of co-operative propaganda as in the Punjab has been under the consideration of Government for some time past. A proposal to offer a prize for the best drama on a co-operative subject in order to attract a suitable play for the film is under correspondence with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.